



Farm Facts



Debra K. Kenerson
Director

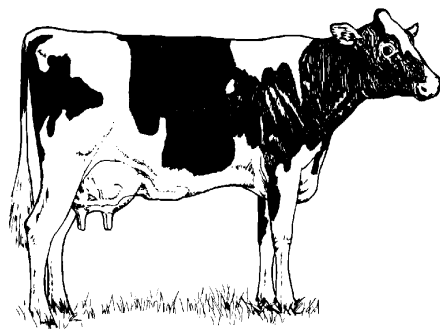


cooperating with
Tennessee
Department
of Agriculture

<http://www.nass.usda.gov/tn> Phone 1-800-626-0987

Released April 22, 2005 Volume 05 Number 08

January-March Milk Production Down 5 Percent



Tennessee Milk Production: January-March 2005 quarterly production of milk was 295 million pounds, down 5 percent from the January-March period in 2004. The average number of milk cows was 72,000 head, 5,000 head less than the same period a year earlier. October-December 2004 quarterly production of milk, at 270 million pounds, was down 5 percent from the October-December period in 2003. The average number of milk cows for the October-December quarter was 73,000 head, 4,000 head less than the same period a year earlier.

Milk Cows and Production: Selected States and United States, Preliminary January-March, 2004-2005

State	Jan-Mar Milk Cows ¹		Jan-Mar Milk Production ²		Change From 2004
	2004	2005	2004	2005	
	1,000 Head		Million Pounds		Percent
Alabama	17	16	71	63	-11.3
Arkansas	25	23	86	82	-4.7
Georgia	84	83	381	377	-1.0
Kentucky	111	110	366	357	-2.5
Mississippi	28	26	109	109	0.0
Missouri	124	118	470	459	-2.3
North Carolina	58	55	264	253	-4.2
Tennessee	77	72	310	295	-4.8
Virginia	105	105	441	452	2.5
United States	8,993	8,995	42,759	43,238	1.1

¹ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh. ² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

United States: Milk production in the 23 major States during March totaled 13.8 billion pounds, up 3.1 percent from March 2004. February revised production, at 12.3 billion pounds, was down 0.5 percent from February 2004. However, production was up 3.1 percent on a per day basis after adjusting for the leap year. The February revision represented an increase of 30 million pounds or 0.2 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,704 pounds for March, 43 pounds above March 2004. The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.10 million head, 38,000 head more than March 2004, and 21,000 head more than February 2005. Milk production in the U.S. during the January-March quarter totaled 43.2 billion pounds, up 1.1 percent from the January-March quarter last year.

In This Issue

Milk Production	1
2004 Poultry Slaughter	2
Chicken & Eggs	2
Livestock Slaughter	2
Livestock Slaughter Establishments	3
Red Meat Production	3
2004 Commercial Slaughter	3
TGPA Auction and Marketing Seminar	3
National Animal Identification System	4

Young Chickens Slaughtered: Number, Live Weight, Average Live Weight, Pounds Certified, and Post-Mortem Condemnations, by Month and Annual Total, Tennessee, 2004

Month	Number Slaughtered	Live Weight	Average Live Weight	Pounds Certified ¹	Post-Mortem Condemnations	
					NY Dressed Weight	Percent ²
	1,000 Head	1,000 Pounds	Pounds	1,000 Pounds	1,000 Pounds	Percent
Jan	18,950	99,237	5.24	72,206	874	0.98
Feb	17,174	88,349	5.14	63,530	948	1.19
Mar	19,572	101,470	5.18	76,948	818	0.90
Apr	21,976	104,183	4.74	77,722	772	0.82
May	19,339	95,986	4.96	73,359	680	0.79
Jun	19,879	102,590	5.16	77,893	743	0.81
Jul	19,715	98,755	5.01	76,470	765	0.86
Aug	21,207	107,381	5.06	82,515	764	0.79
Sep	19,875	101,722	5.12	78,522	738	0.81
Oct	18,222	94,845	5.20	72,736	701	0.82
Nov	20,011	102,706	5.13	79,310	758	0.82
Dec	19,864	104,664	5.27	79,938	908	0.96
Total	235,784	1,201,888	5.10	911,149	9,469	0.88

¹ Total chilled and frozen pounds certified, ready-to-cook weights. ² Pounds condemned as a percent of N.Y. dressed weight inspected.

Chicken & Eggs: U.S. egg production totaled 7.73 billion during March 2005, up 2 percent from last year. Production included 6.60 billion table eggs, and 1.13 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.07 billion were broiler-type and 63 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during March 2005 averaged 347 million, up 2 percent from a year earlier. March egg production per 100 layers was 2,225 eggs, up 1 percent from March 2004.

Layers on Hand and Eggs Produced, Selected States and United States, During March 2004 and 2005

Selected States	Table Egg Layers in Flocks 30,000 or more		All Layers ¹		Eggs per 100 for All Layers ¹	
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
	Thousands				Number	
Alabama	1,939	1,763	9,224	9,117	1,865	1,974
Arkansas	4,877	4,225	16,162	14,924	1,930	1,963
Georgia	11,287	10,951	20,510	20,335	2,101	2,100
North Carolina	3,350	3,296	10,939	10,997	1,956	1,973
All Other States ²	254,563	261,391	284,865	291,882	2,253	2,264
United States	276,016	281,626	341,700	347,255	2,209	2,225

¹ Includes all layers and eggs produced in both table egg and hatching egg flocks regardless of size. ² Tennessee included in other states.

U.S. Livestock Slaughter: Cattle slaughter totaled 2.72 million head for March 2005, down 5 percent from March 2004. The average live weight was up 21 pounds from the previous year, at 1,238 pounds. Calf slaughter totaled 67,900 head, down 11 percent from March 2004. The average live weight was 20 pounds above last year, at 328 pounds. Hog kill totaled 8.95 million head, 1 percent below March 2004. The average live weight was 3 pounds above the previous year, at 271 pounds. Sheep slaughter totaled 280,300 head, 9 percent below last year. The average live weight was 139 pounds, down 5 pounds from March a year ago.

Livestock Slaughter¹: United States, March 2004 and 2005

Species	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
	1,000 Head		1,000 Pounds		Pounds	
Cattle	2,869	2,723	3,491,935	3,371,550	1,217	1,238
Calves	76	68	23,511	22,276	308	328
Hogs	9,039	8,946	2,420,825	2,423,007	268	271
Sheep & lambs	307	280	44,210	38,851	144	139

¹ Includes slaughter under Federal inspection and other Commercial slaughter, excludes farm slaughter.

Number of Livestock Slaughtering Establishments: Tennessee, January 1, 1995 - 2004

Year	Under Federal Inspection	Custom Plants	Total
1996	28	29	57
1997	27	23	50
1998	27	23	50
1999	25	23	48
2000	22	15	37
2001	23	15	38
2002	20	17	37
2003	21	14	35
2004	22	11	33
2005	22	9	31

Red Meat Production: By Month, Tennessee, 1995 - 2004¹

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total ²
Million Pounds													
1995	20.7	15.7	18.7	15.8	18.3	15.2	12.7	15.0	14.0	17.5	17.1	17.4	198.2
1996	18.0	15.7	15.9	16.2	16.6	15.2	15.2	15.0	17.1	19.0	19.7	18.8	202.4
1997	18.4	15.4	15.7	17.6	16.1	15.2	16.1	16.2	19.0	19.8	18.9	21.9	210.3
1998	18.3	15.9	18.6	18.0	16.4	15.7	18.6	18.5	18.5	22.3	22.2	22.0	225.0
1999	20.2	16.4	21.8	19.1	17.3	18.2	17.6	21.1	20.6	19.1	20.2	21.0	232.7
2000	21.5	21.0	20.9	15.9	19.1	17.4	17.1	21.3	19.8	19.9	20.7	19.3	233.9
2001	22.7	16.6	18.5	17.4	17.8	15.5	17.2	18.1	18.3	23.6	20.8	20.2	226.9
2002	20.2	15.8	16.2	17.8	18.4	17.7	17.3	20.3	19.6	23.1	20.7	20.5	227.6
2003	20.8	16.2	19.6	18.9	16.0	15.6	21.1	18.4	22.0	25.1	19.1	20.0	232.9
2004	20.2	19.7	22.4	16.6	12.4	17.9	16.3	17.8	18.8	18.3	19.5	22.1	222.1

¹ Includes total beef, veal, pork, lamb and mutton, excluding farm slaughter. ² Totals may not add due to rounding.

Commercial Slaughter: By Species, Number of Head by Month, Tennessee, 2004¹

Species	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year
1,000 Head													
Cattle	1.5	1.2	1.5	1.1	1.0	1.3	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.4	1.3	1.4	15.0
Calves	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	1.1
Hogs	61.1	60.1	67.8	49.6	36.1	52.5	48.5	53.0	55.4	53.7	58.0	65.5	661.3
Sheep	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.7	6.7

¹ Includes slaughter in federally inspected and in other slaughter plants, but excludes animals slaughtered on farms.

The Tennessee Goat Producers Association (TGPA) Promote Goat Auction and Marketing Seminar

Tennessee Goat Producers Association (TGPA) is conducting its first Breeding Stock auction. The auction will be held on Saturday, August 6, 2005, at the Marshall County Agricultural Center in Lewisburg, TN. The Auctioneer will be Mr. Royce Johns, license #136, from Franklin, TN. A Meat Goat Marketing Seminar will also be conducted for the farmers and all interested in the goat industry.

TGPA is conducting this sale to help TGPA members and goat farmers from Tennessee market their top animals. This sale is open to straight breed and percentages replacement stock. All meat-type animals must meet the conformation standards of the American Meat Goat Association (AMGA). On Friday evening Dr. Victor Wakefield, DVM, will inspect the animals for visible signs of infectious or contagious diseases including Caseous lymphadenitis (CL) and others, and check health certificates. Health certificates of animals must be from a licensed veterinarian. Each selected breeder will have the opportunity to consign 10 (ten) females and two (2) males to the auction. A commission of 5% and a \$5.00/head fee will be charged to TGPA members. Consignments will be accepted from Non-TGPA members at a 10% commission and a \$5.00/head fee.

Sellers will be expected to guarantee the health and soundness of their consignments. TGPA assume no liability with regards to animal soundness. For more information about the TGPA auction contact: Mrs. Robin Cotten, TGPA-Sales Committee Chair, at sawtree@bigriver.net or visit the TGPA website (www.tngoatproducers.org).

TDA Awarded \$130K to Launch Animal Identification in Tennessee Premise Identification First Step in National System

NASHVILLE, Tenn. -- State Agriculture Commissioner Ken Givens today announced the Tennessee Department of Agriculture will soon begin livestock premise identification with the help of a \$130,000 USDA grant. The grant was awarded to the state as part of a nationwide initiative to ultimately identify all livestock as well as their location and movement. "The creation of a National Animal Identification System is the single most important development in animal agriculture in decades," said Givens. "It's an important step in further safeguarding Tennessee's and the nation's livestock industry from the threat of disease. We also hope to increase the marketability of Tennessee livestock as an added advantage of the program."

The National Animal Identification System (NAIS) is a program intended to identify specific animals in the United States and record their movement over their lifespans. It is being developed by USDA and State agencies-in cooperation with industry-to enable 48-hour traceback of the movements of any diseased or exposed animal. "Although the idea of a national system is not new, the initiative has been stepped up in recent years as a result of the increasing number of animal disease outbreaks that have been reported over the globe," said State Veterinarian Ron Wilson. "Rapid diagnosis and quick response are the most critical components in being able to control and minimize the impact of animal disease, which could cost Tennessee's livestock industry millions of dollars and threaten human health too."

The USDA grant will be used to hire a state animal identification coordinator under the direction of the State Veterinarian's office. The grant will also help cover the cost of outreach, training and equipment. "The program is voluntary, but we expect that most of Tennessee's farmers and livestock dealers will want to participate, especially when they come to better understand and appreciate the importance and value of the initiative," said Wilson. The first step towards a nationwide animal identification system is to identify and register all premises. A premise is a unique, identifiable physical location where livestock can be found and includes places such as farms, feedlots, auction barns and stockyards. According to Wilson, the State Veterinarian's office will assign identification numbers unique to each location. Identification numbers along with basic premise information such as the contact, facility type and address will be entered into a national database administered by USDA. The database can only be accessed by state and federal animal health officials for the purpose of animal disease protection.

The department is partnering with the University of Tennessee Extension, the Tennessee Farm Bureau and the USDA Farm Service Agency to allow farmers in the near future to obtain a premise identification number at local offices. Part of the USDA grant will be used to help train the staff of partner agencies on how to help farmers and livestock dealers register their premises. Wilson says other partner agencies may be added as the program expands.

Wilson says the goal is to make the premise registration service easy to use and accessible to as many people as possible. The department expects to begin issuing premise ID numbers in early summer. For more information, contact the State Veterinarian's office at (615) 837-5120 or visit USDA's National Animal Identification System Web site at www.usda.gov/nais.